

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Board of Regents  
**From:** Board Office  
**Subject:** Informational Item on the Proposed New Center in the College of Pharmacy,  
University of Iowa  
**Date:** March 4, 2002

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**Recommended Action:**

Receive the University of Iowa, College of Pharmacy's report on a proposed new center – the Center for Improving Medication Use in the Community.

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**Executive Summary:**

The University of Iowa, College of Pharmacy, is proposing a new center - the Center for Improving Medication Use in the Community. Board of Regents policy requires that new centers or institutes with no new resources only need to come to the Board for informational purposes and do not need Board approval (*Policy Manual §6.06B*).

**Resources** No new institutional resources or state-appropriated funds have been committed. This Center will build on the existing expertise of the faculty within the Division of Clinical and Administrative Pharmacy and the College of Public Health to respond to education, research and practice development issues related to medication use in the community.

**Research Emphasis** Research emphasis areas will include:

- ◆ Studies aimed at improving medication use through the characterization and management of drug therapy problems;
- ◆ Effective models of community-based interdisciplinary care;
- ◆ Reimbursement for drugs and patient care; and
- ◆ Evaluation of health outcomes.

**Improve Medication Use by Patients** Post marketing clinical drug trials will also be conducted by the Center. In addition, the Center will undertake projects to improve medication use by patients, and to improve the skills of pharmacists and other health providers to manage and improve medication use by patients.

Practitioner  
Interest

It is anticipated that the Center will attract interest from practitioners, patient advocacy groups, state and federal health agencies including Medicaid and Medicare, the pharmaceutical industry and foundations with expressed interest in medication use issues, especially for the elderly. In addition to studying important questions related to medication usage, there is expected to eventually be a significant public policy component, given the high degree of state and federal interest in the medication use process of today's society.

Future Reporting

Should a major budgetary commitment of institutional funds be made at a future date, the University of Iowa, College of Pharmacy, will seek the approval of the Board of Regents, State of Iowa.

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Robert J. Barak

Approved:   
Gregory S. Nichols